

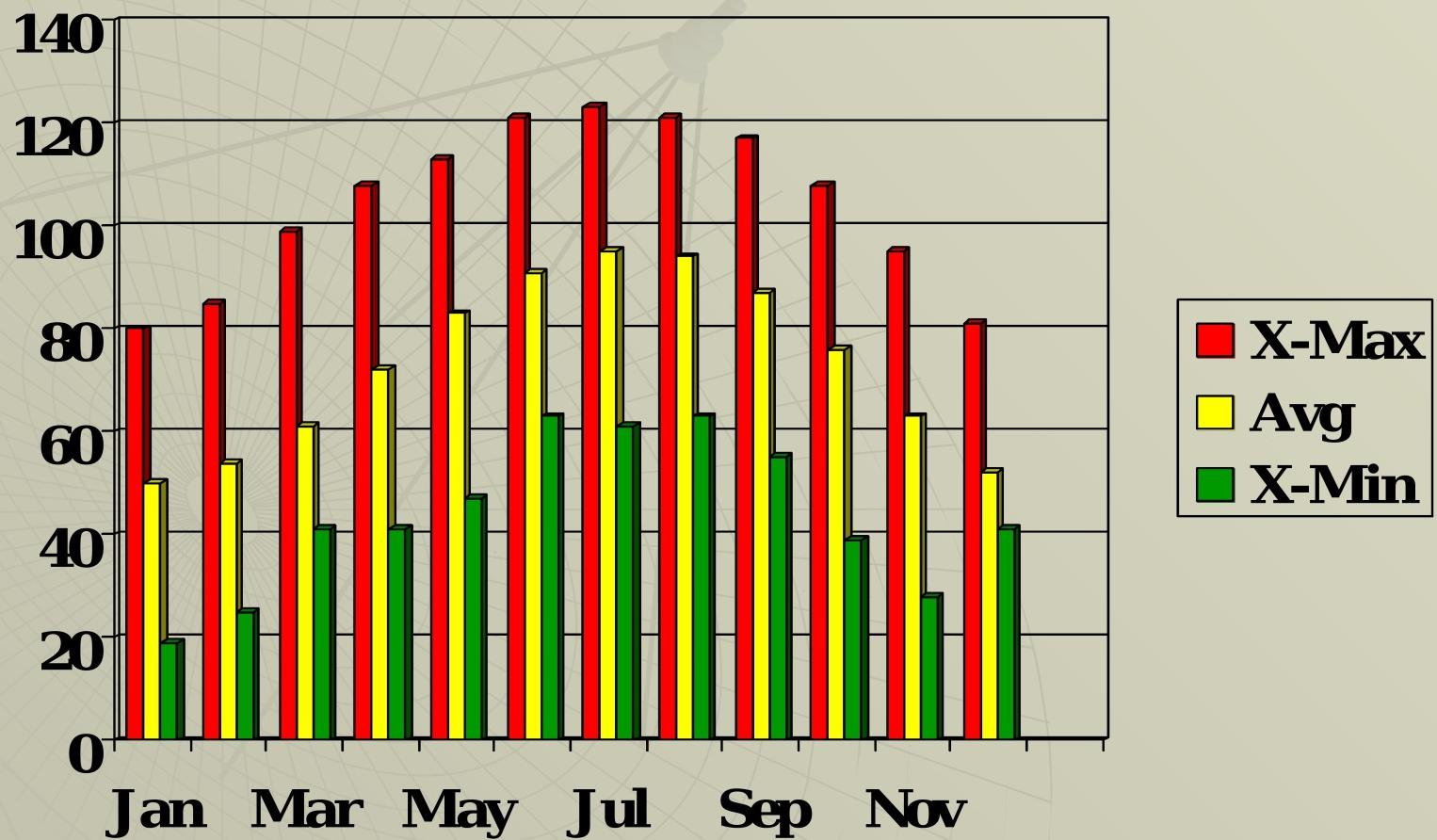
IRAQ CLIMATOLOGY



Climate of Iraq

- ◆ **Iraq's Terrain**
- ◆ Twice the size of Idaho and nearly landlocked by Syria, Turkey, Iran, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Jordan, except for water access via a small coastal area E of Kuwait. Mostly composed of broad, arid plains but 2 easily flooded river valleys.
 - ◆ -- Tigris (nahr Diljah) flows out of Turkey into N RN Iraq and flows SSEward to the Persian Gulf
 - ◆ -- Euphrates (Nah al Furat) enters Iraq from Syria and flows diagonally across the plains to join the Tigris in the SERN corner of Iraq
- ◆ 2 Mountain ranges
 - ◆ - Tarus Mtn Range - to the N - (5,000-11,000 ft)
 - ◆ - Zagros Mtn Range - to the NE - (4,000-11,000 ft)
- ◆ At least 3 manmade reservoirs in the NE MTNS (Zagros)
- ◆ 3 freshwater lakes in central Iraq (near Baghdad)
 - ◆ Buhaayrat Ath Thartar, Al Taqaddum , Bahral Milah
- ◆ **Iraq's Weather**
- ◆ Spring
 - ◆ Warm and often hot with frontal systems passing through the area every 5-7 days *Shamal* winds are possible(strong NWerlies) that carry sand and dust far downwind, gradually intensify occur with greater frequency as the summer heat low strengthens.
- ◆ Summer
 - ◆ Conditions are clear, hot, and dry, often extremely hot. Dust haze is common and visibilities, especially in the S, is often restricted. Shamals can set in suddenly and last 1-5 days peaking in Jun/Jul. Precipitation is practically nonexistent.
- ◆ Fall
 - ◆ Temperatures began to fall slightly giving relief from the blistering summer heat. Frontal systems begin to affect the area increasing the chance of rain showers and thunderstorms. Visibilities increase as precipitation clears out dust.
- ◆ Winter
 - ◆ Mostly fair skies with frontal systems affecting the region every 3-5 days. These systems bring short periods of precipitation and occasional dust storms and occasionally cause severe thunderstorms, hail and shamals (strong winds storms)

Baghdad's Annual Temp



Baghdad's Annual Precip

